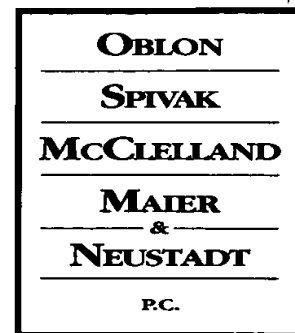




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Docket No.: 214896US0PCT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



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RE: Application Serial No.: 09/926,330 ✓
Applicants: Estelle BONNIN, et al.
Filing Date: December 7, 2001
For: METHOD FOR OBTAINING A. NIGER CULTURES
AND THEIR USES FOR PRODUCING FERULIC
ACID AND VANILIC ACID
Group Art Unit: 1651
Examiner: MARX, I.

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Response to Requirement for Restriction (4 pp.)
International Preliminary Examination Report (5 pp.)

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
ESTELLE BONNIN, ET AL. : EXAMINER: MARX, I.
SERIAL NO: 09/926,330 :
FILED: DECEMBER 7, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1651
FOR: METHOD FOR OBTAINING A. :
NIGER CULTURES AND THEIR USES
FOR PRODUCING FERULIC ACID AND
VANILLIC ACID

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Official Action of July 15, 2003, Applicants elect, with traverse,
Group I, Claims 1-4.

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.

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